

CAA News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENSUS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ♦ May 2005

2005 Reunion Plans

The CAA Board of Directors are considering plans for the next reunion luncheon. Possible dates are Friday, September 30, or Friday, October 7, and the most likely location is the Andrews NCO club (The officers club is gone). You will receive a notice in July of the exact date, location, and cost. There will be no speeches except a short update by the director on the progress of construction. Updated copies of the membership directory will be distributed.

Election of Directors

Ballots will be mailed by early August for election of CAA officers. On the ballot will be candidates for 2-year terms as president and vice president and for 4-year terms as directors. If you would like to be considered as a candidate, please mention your interest and include a brief biography in a note to the CAA Nominating Committee at Box 1480, Suitland, MD 20752.

News From Alumni

[Lots of items this time, many of which were received along with dues renewals. Please don't wait until a year from now to send in your news!]

Last July, **Sol & Estelle Helfand** and **Gerry Post** joined **Shelly & Ruth Rubin** on a delightful cruise to Alaska. It was the Rubins' 50th wedding anni-versary, and they brought along all four of their children, their spouses and significant others, and their granddaughter. Also, at the end of November the Rubins and the Helfands enjoyed a jazz cruise to the Caribbean.

Jerry Roth sends greetings from Tempe, AZ: I've been here for over a year and really enjoy the area. I stay physically active working out at a community center and riding my bike. I enjoy cooking vegetarian meals, and I'm grateful there are stores like Trader Joe's and Whole Foods nearby. Because Arizona State University is here, there are lots of vegetarian restaurants; my favorites are Ethiopian and Vietnamese. I'm also active in my homeowners association, but despite my Bureau experience, the resident survey I conducted got only a 20-percent response (no follow-up!). I'm also the Federal Legislative Officer of the local NARFE chapter, keeping track of legislation that affects our community, including COLAs and health insurance.

Barbara Conner, who retired last year from ACSO, has been keeping busy with horses. In addition to her horse

Flash, on whom she rides dressage, she has a contract to train her barn owner's 3-year-old and 4-year-old Friesian mares to show over the next year or two. This spring she started showing a beautiful 5-year-old saddlebred mare whom she's been training for nearly 2 years. She also stays busy volunteering at church and singing in the choir, and plays golf whenever she has any spare time. In February she went skiing for the first time in 15 years and found she still could navigate the bunny slope. Like nearly everyone else, she says she doesn't know how she ever had time to work.

Jerry Mann spent 2 weeks in Sicily in March, and said everything was incredible—the scenery, the food, and the friendliness of the people. Lots of amazing topography (it's a volcanic island), with cacti imported by Spain from Mexico, orange and lemon trees imported by Arabs, palm trees, olive trees, and almond trees. Every day was sunny and warm, around 65°. Grand Circle Travel conducted the tour, which involved hotel stays in Palermo, Agrigento, and Taormina, and numerous side trips from each. Highlights included visits to Mt. Etna; Corleone (for an anti-Mafia presentation); Arab, Greek, Roman, and Norman archeological sites; and lots of delicious foods and wines, especially the best gelato (ice cream) in the world.

Ellen Ewell retired from the Census Bureau in 1992 after 31 years of service. In 1993 she moved from Calvert County to a small town north of Winchester, VA. Since then she has been keeping busy with art, crafts, and landscaping. She decoupages greeting cards and calendar prints onto light switch covers and sells them at flea markets, craft festivals, and gift shops, and she is a long-time vendor at the Alexandria, VA, farmer's market on Saturday mornings. She also does watercolor paintings, mostly seascapes and florals. Some are displayed in Winchester-area restaurants. As an avid gardener, she has moved hundreds of river stones to build walks, walls, and paths on her grounds. She is currently active in planting grape vines at a Virginia vineyard owned by her daughter and son-in-law.

Marion E. Porter-Gordon says she moved last year to a seniors complex in a mini-community in Suitland. The amenities are outstanding, including a well equipped gym, a large game room, and a library with lots of books and comfortable furniture. There is also a lovely café/coffee room and a large, plush sitting room with lovely decor and a nice fireplace. Marion is currently vice

president and secretary for the Senior Resident Association.

Marshall Moore says he appreciates receiving news about the agency that put food on his table for 30 years. He says, "I continue to be in good health. During 2004 my travels took me to Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. The differences between the former East and West Germanies now seem to be less pronounced. I try to visit Governments Division every few years because a number of people there still remember me and I remember them, and I'm able to give them a little historical perspective. I hope to visit there again during 2005."

Cindy Brooks says she's been retired from ACSD for a whole year and hasn't done the first chore on her list! But she meets several former coworkers every month for lunch and catching up.

Masato Asanuma says life in "Sin City" [Las Vegas] is good. He worked on construction statistics for 25 years at the Bureau and finds it interesting and different to observe the construction boom in Vegas, including the largest privately owned building and the tallest residential condos west of the Mississippi. He declines to describe his personal life, because "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas."

Robert Watts retired in December 1966 and serves as pastor of Mt. Gethsemane Holiness Church in Huntingtown, MD. He currently is guiding construction of a large addition to the church that will seat 380 more worshippers.

Henry Shryock recently received the President's Call to Service Award for his volunteer services in the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. He says he won't be able to attend this year's reunion because he'll be on a coastal cruise from Baltimore to Quebec City and back.

John Priebe says he missed last year's reunion because he and his wife Bonnie were in Australia at the time. They visited John's sister, who migrated there with her husband in 1971. They got to see the Toowoomba, Queensland, spring flower festival and toured Melbourne, Tasmania, and Adelaide and the Barossa Valley wine growing area. He recommends Tasmania for anyone who really wants to get away from it all.

Martin Weingarten says that at age 85 he still enjoys driving and is proud of his safe driving record. The only traveling he and his wife do now is shopping, trips to doctors' offices, and short excursions around the Washington area. He stays fit by walking and helping out with household chores, and keeps his mind active by following domestic and international affairs and the fluctuations of financial markets. He remains interested in Census Bureau affairs but regretfully doesn't attend the reunions because of his hearing problem in crowds.

Don Kahler says he is still in his home of 56 years. His wife died in 1991, so he busies himself with the computer, reading, TV, and family. This year his older granddaughter presented him with his first great-granddaughter. He has now been retired for 30 years, only 5 less than his term of service at the Bureau. But he says the last 30 years have passed much faster than the first 35!

Cheryl and Ron Piencykoski are enjoying their life in Clearwater, FL. They travel around the state visiting friends and relatives, and they recently visited St. Augustine for some sightseeing and eating at some great restaurants. In their spare time they read, volunteer, golf, and watch their granddaughter. They often visit with the Helfands and Gerry Post, who live in the area.

Ziggy "Ski" Krivitsky wrote to say he enjoys golfing daily at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Indian Head, and weight training and swimming at the College of Southern Maryland.

Melinda Hileman, former Health Unit nurse who retired in 2002, moved from Waldorf, MD, to Severna Park after 31 years in the same house. She stays busy with three grandchildren, traveling (Australia last September), and working as a contract nurse 2 days a week in federal health units in DC.

Louise Tapager-Kirk says she and her husband, **Russ**, had a great time at last year's reunion, and are still enjoying life at Riderwood Village.

Geraldine (Judy) Humphries moved from the west coast of Florida to the east coast several years ago, following the death of her husband, to be near her son and grandson in Homestead. She is looking forward to a new movie theatre complex in the area planned for this year. She travels frequently to Las Vegas for meetings with friends and her grandson's mother, but says traveling is getting more difficult with age. She tries to stay in touch with old Census friends.

John Wikoff and his wife **Joy** began his retirement in 1987 by traveling around the country by RV, visiting all 50 states and all 10 Canadian provinces over a 2-year period. They slowed the pace a bit during the next 8 years, traveling only 5 months a year and wintering in Florida. In the past few years they have begun taking one major trip a year; this year they head for Australia to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. The rest of the time John spends gardening, specializing on small fruit, while Joy works with her music club.

Clement Nettles, a January 2004 retiree from ACSD, and his wife have decided to move from the "Free State" of Maryland to the "Tax-Free State" of Delaware. When construction on their new home is finished, they will relocate to the capital city of Dover. Clement says they

will have everything they need nearby: a Super Wal-Mart, Home Depot and Lowe's, and Dover Downs—in case they decide to gamble away their retirement savings. Clement is also a retired Naval Reservist, so facilities at nearby Dover Air Force Base will be available.

Janet Yax says she is active in her church and sings in the choir. She and her daughter enjoy summers at Chataqua in New York and at the John C. Campbell folk school in North Carolina.

Don Starsinic says he and Margaret joined a tour group on Holland America last June cruising the Alaska Inland Passage. They especially enjoyed the glaciers at Glacier Bay and exploring Juneau, Sitka (their favorite), and Ketchikan. At the end though, heavy rain ruined their tour of Butchart Gardens in Victoria, BC. Their son Michael took and passed the Jeopardy! Test last August. He appeared on the show on New Year's Eve and made it through Double Jeopardy, but he missed the Final Jeopardy question. He felt it was a great experience anyway. Don and Margaret visited DC and PA last November and this March, and Don was impressed with the progress of construction on the new Census building. Don is still active in NARFE, serving as an election judge in two elections and a clerk in one, and he became a district vice president of the Kentucky federation last June. Don is still active in the local AARP chapter, works on his church count committee, and is nearing completion of his autobiography. He was saddened to learn of the death of Gerda Mudd, an old friend from Population Division and his one-time bridge partner.

Robert D. Johnson is enjoying retirement in Delaware. He volunteers at a senior center and his wife Barbara also volunteers and works part-time. They plan to go to Tucson to visit their son and his wife, both of whom are in the Air Force. Their son has been on two tours in Iraq and will soon leave for 4 months in Africa. Bob missed the last reunion because he and Barbara were on a bus trip to Boston and Cape Cod, but he hopes to make it to this year's.

Johnnie Mae Barber, who retired in 1993 from Computer Services Division, has been enjoying travel with her husband on business trips to Canada, Hawaii, New Orleans, and other places. They enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren, especially since Johnnie doesn't have to cook! Johnnie has served as chairperson of the scholarship committee of her local AARP chapter, and she is also a long-time member of the Suitland Crime Action Team and part of the Lay Ministry and other activities at Hunter Memorial AME church in Suitland. She asks, "Who says retired people have lots of time on their hands?"

Harlan Rainey retired in 1979 from Industry Division, and was previously in Systems Division, where he

worked with Florence Wright and Morris Gorinson.

Steve Phillips says he still misses his friends a lot and still identifies with "good old building 3." He, like many others, is surprised at how busy he is in retirement—his "to-do" list is five pages long! His wife, Ann, says "Hi" to everyone.

Mark Kronisch says he loves retirement and is doing a lot of sailing.

Steve Driscoll says he and his wife have moved to Kennebunk, Maine, and are enjoying life at the "Maine pace."

George Gatewood and his wife have moved to a new home in Fort Myers, Florida, and are enjoying their first winter away from Washington. They celebrated retirement with a trip around the world, which included stops in Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa. They spent some extra time in Melbourne for their youngest son's marriage to a beautiful Australian bride.

DEATHS

[Please send us obituaries of former Census Bureau employees that you see in papers outside the DC area.]

Muriel L. Wiesen, 77, died in Reston, VA, December 5 from complications of Alzheimer's disease. In the 1950s she spent time in Asia and the Middle East, then returned to New York, where she worked for the Indonesian delegation to the United Nations and later for the Institute for International Education. She began working for the Census Bureau in 1989 as a field interviewer in the New York office. She retired in 2000. Survivors include her husband of 48 years, David L. Wiesen, and one son.

Lloyd Lee Fletcher, 87, died January 3 from complications of kidney disease. He went to work for the Census Bureau in 1950. He was recalled to the army in 1951 for the Korean War and was discharged in 1952. He then went to work for the CIA and retired from that agency in 1972 as chief of the supply management branch. His wife of 47 years, Elna Fletcher, died in 1994. Survivors include four children, two children for whom he was guardian, a sister, and 11 grandchildren.

Marcia M. Gerber, 71, died December 13 in Las Vegas. She retired from the Census Bureau in Boston in 2000 after a 20-year career. She was well-known for her determination and ability to collect data from the most reluctant respondents. Survivors include two daughters and one son.

Robert Franklin Delano Clark, 71, died December 24 of congestive heart failure at his home in Upper Marlboro, MD. He worked for the Census Bureau for 30 years, retiring in 1990 as chief of the Technical Services Division. His wife of 49 years, Edith Clark, died in May 2004. Survivors include four children, two sisters, two grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

Mary Flora Gering Dettmar, 83, died January 9 at Villa Rosa Nursing Home in Mitchellville, MD. She had Alzheimer’s disease. She was a census taker in Tacoma, WA, in 1960 and in Arlington, VA, in 1970 and 1980. Survivors include her husband, retired Army Col. Henry Dettmar; five children; and seven grandchildren.

Bernard Robert Cooperman, 87, died January 22 of prostate cancer at the Casey House hospice in Rockville, MD. He came to Washington in the 1930s to work with the Census Bureau. He graduated from George Washington University medical school in 1948, and practiced internal medicine in the District from 1950 to 1980. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Dr. Irene Cooperman; a son; and four grandchildren.

George Alan Shelton, 89, died January 29 at Chevy Chase Manor Care Nursing Home. He had colon cancer. He went to work for the Census Bureau in 1950, and 3 years later he became a civilian computer analyst for the Air Force at the Pentagon. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Charlotte Shelton, a daughter, three sons, and three grandchildren.

John Cullinane died February 28 at his home in Brooksville, Florida, after a long battle with several illnesses. He had been regional director in the New York office and he retired from the Census Bureau in 1980. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Cullinane.

Rudie C. Bartel, 86, died of congestive heart and renal failure at North Arundel Hospital in Maryland. He was a resident of Bowie. He was a B-24 navigator in World War II and retired from the Air Force in 1962. He then worked for a short time with the National Scientific Labs in Washington and the Census Bureau in Suitland. His wife and two sons predeceased him. Survivors include 7 children, 11 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren.

See the Changes at Headquarters
This is a reminder that you can watch the progress of

construction on the Suitland reservation by visiting www.census.gov/alumni/newbldg.html.

Dialing for YOUR Dollars
If someone calls and tries to persuade you to transfer him to another number by dialing *72, 72#, or 90#, **hang up!** This scam lets the other party charge long distance calls to your number. Recently more than \$50,000 worth of calls from a Florida jail was charged to about 100 unsuspecting households.

ACSD Retirees Meet for Lunch
A group of retirees from ACSD have begun meeting once a month for lunch at restaurants within a few miles of the Bureau. Recent participants included Al Plisch, Jim Hughes, Mike Garland, Jim Sollo, Clement Nettles, Glenn King (not yet retired), and Jerry Mann, who met at the Four Seasons restaurant in Alexandria, VA. Other ACSD retirees are invited to join. Notify Glenn King of your desire to take part.

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Your contributions are welcome on any subject of interest to former Census Bureau employees, especially news of yourselves and your families. Please send contributions to gmann928@hotmail.com or to CAA, P.O. Box 1480, Suitland, MD 20752. (E-mail is preferred.) Past issues of the newsletter can be seen at www.census.gov/alumni.